Obituaries

Mary Martin Dickerson

Mary Martin Dickerson, 85, 227 Chesterfield Road, Lynchburg, died Friday afternoon, Sept. 25 in Lynchburg General Hospital. She was the wife of the late Samuel Henry Dickerson.

Born in Appomattox County, she was the daughter of the late Samuel H. Martin and Anna Pugh Martin. She was a member of College Hill Baptist Church.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. R. D. (Louise) Jordan, Lynchburg; three grandchildren, Buddy Ray Thompson, Farmville, Bonnie Creasy, Richmond, and Susan Brent, Lynchburg, and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Monday in Whitten Timberlake Chapel by the Rev. Wayne Varner. Interment was in Fort Hill Memorial Park.

Whitten Timberlake Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

William Lee Dunn Jr.

BROOKNEAL - William Lee Dunn Jr., 16, Route 2, Brookneal, died Saturday morning, Sept. 26 in Phenix as a result of an automobile accident.

He was born in South Boston June 11, 1965, a son of William Lee Dunn Sr., Randolph, and Faye Wilson Dunn, Brookneal. He was a member of Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church and a student at Central Middle School at Charlotte Court House.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his paternal grandfather, Ben Dunn, Charlotte Court House; one sister, Wanda Faye Dunn, Brookneal, and two half sisters, Christy Lynn Dunn and Michelle Delaine Dunn, both of Randolph.

Funeral services were conducted at 4 p.m. today at Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church by the Rev. Donald Collins. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Henderson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Wilson Jefferson Robertson

Wilson Jefferson Robertson, 69, Route 2, Gladstone, died Wednesday morning, September 23, in a Charlottesville, Va. hospital.

He was born in Buckingham County, a son of the late James A. Robertson and Lucy Wade Robertson. He was a member of Union Baptist Church, a retired farmer and a former employee of Fred Jones Well Co.

He is survived by his wife, Jessie Watson Robertson, a daughter, Mrs. Lucille R. Lang, Arvonia, four sons, Russell E. Robertson, Thomas J. Robertson, Frank G. Robertson, all of Charlottesville, and John A. Robertson, Standardsville, and 8 grandchildren.

Graveside funeral services were conducted Friday, Sept. 25, at Buckingham Community Cemetery by Rev. Wayne Woodard.

Robinson Funeral Home, Appomattox, was in charge of arrangements.

Rev. Floyd Lucas

Profile: Rev. Lucas

By FRANCES H. PAULETTE

He's just turned 84 but you'd never guess it when you spot him walking to and from the post office. Always well-dressed and walking with a spring in his step, his appearance belies his years.

The Rev. Floyd Lucas, retired Methodist minister, has seen a lot of changes in the world in general and especially in the moral standard of our nation.

"I was born and reared in Augusta County, Virginia," said the minister, "and my call to the ministry was a growing thing. There was never a time when I questioned the reality of God. To be conscious of God came easily to me."

It was in Baltimore, Maryland, working as a barber, that the Rev. Lucas first knew, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that he could, and would become a minister....God willing, of course.

"I attended a service in Baltimore and it was a moving experience; immediately following the service I went to my room," said the minister with a smile, "I was overcome by an experience that was a revelation to me.....I knew I could be a minister."

"Having experienced the Light and the Spirit outside the body a number of times, there was no doubt in my mind as to what the Lord wanted me to do," added Lucas.

It is of grave concern to the retired minister that so many people get so 'hung up' on doctrine and fail to see the absolute greatness of God. "You know, one can believe in doctrine so deeply that it becomes your duty," commented Lucas.

"Although my formal education is a bit limited, the door to my future in the ministry was really opened to me at Westminister Theological Seminary that is now Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. I had experiences there that made a lasting impression," added the minister.

"When I was near the end of my third year at the seminary, I happened to see the district superintendent of Rockingham District and he asked me where I wanted to preach. I replied, 'anywhere the Lord sends me'.

It was in Collierstown, a small town near Lexington, in 1926, that Rev. Lucas began his career as a minister. This first charge was composed of three small churches.

"I was paid a salary of $800.00 a year," commented the minister with a smile." You know, I never, in all of my years as a minister, asked for a raise in salary, and I never had a loss in membership."

"I remember a lot of things that happened to me during my years as a minister, but one of the things that stuck firmly in my mind was the distress of the Lucas, who readily admits that evangelism has always been his first love says, "I have always been happy in the ministry.....happy with the work I was doing."

"Old preachers often have the reputation for being critical," laughed the minster. "I suppose this has applied to me too at times. Many times I have been asked what I think about the future of the church and I don't like the answer I have to give."

"As far as I can see," said the minister with concern in his voice, "the future of the church is not bright. Many new approaches will have to be abandoned and instead of looking ahead, we will have to look back and lay hold of the virtues of the past."

Although formally retired, the Rev. Lucas takes advantage of every opportunity when asked to speak or to witness. He frequently supplies in various pulpits in and around this area.

Changes? Yes, I'd say he's seen a lot.

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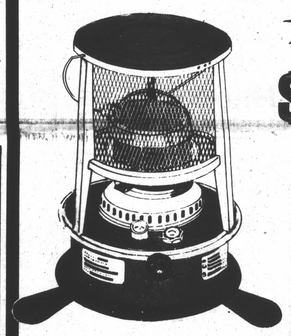

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Church News

Services planned

Mt. Airy Baptist Church will hold Homecoming and Revival Services this Sunday, Oct. 4.

On the second Sunday of October, the Rev. Warren Napier will preach at 7 p.m. His Mt. Pleasant Young Adult Choir will accompany him. The event will be for the benefit of the NAACP Queen rally.

Bible & Daily Living

God's continual blessing

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
God's Continual Blessing
Lesson for October 4, 1981
Bible Study Passage: Isaiah 55:1-9

Introduction

Some of my fondest memories are the days I spent as a child and as a teenager on my grandparent's farm in North Carolina. Summer was a leisurely break from the "no-hum" days of school.

Everyday was Sunday at my grandmother's, especially in terms of mealtime. No one cooked or prepared such elaborate meals as she did each day of the week. I would be out exploring the nearby woods or perched high up in a tree when I would hear her peculiar but refreshing call, "Yoo-hoo, come to dinner." In a matter of moments we sat down to a banquet feast around grandmother's table.

My grandmother was more than a good cook, however. She blessed my life in numerous ways. In fact, she was a continual blessing to those who knew and loved her. She nurtured me in ways that still arouse warm feelings within me.

God, too, provides his children with continual blessing. This week's lesson focuses upon the prophet Isaiah's call to Israel to come home. He issues a moving invitation to all who hunger and thirst to accept God's blessings and to repent of their sins.

The Blessing That Refreshes [Isa. 55:1-2]

Isaiah appeals to his countrymen who were exiles in Babylon. Many had settled into complacency and adapted a new life-style. In spite of the relative comfort the people may have grown accustomed to, Isaiah is convinced that many of them maintained a longing hunger for their roots.

The longing for cool waters to quench one's thirst is powerful. Water is essential for the survival of all living organisms. Water is refreshing to the body.

I have always referred to a refrigerator as an "ice box." I'm old enough to remember that my grandparents had an ice box in the kitchen. I also recall that two days a week the ice man would come and deliver ice for the box. It was usually hot when he came. As he broke off the twenty five pound blocks, my brother and I would be there to pick up the small chunks of ice to eat. That was quite refreshing!

Isaiah extends an invitation to the people to come and quench their thirst not only with water, but also milk and wine. The invitation was to leave the land of exile, even though they had become settled, and to come to the land of promise.

The Blessing of Mission [Isa. 55:3-9]

The people of Israel could surely testify to the grace and work of God in their history. God's ultimate plan for the people required their participation. Isaiah recounts the covenant that God had established with the people and urges them to renew their vows and live in absolute obedience to God. They had a mission to perform that required their commitment and urgent response. But first things first. Before they could engage fully in God's plan they had to return to the Lord in a spirit of repentance.

Verses 6-9 stand out as a gracious invitation to act decisively while God's presence was eminently near. If they did not act they might miss a unique opportunity and fail to enjoy the blessings of God's acceptance and affirmation.

The Blessing of Promise [Isa. 55:10-13]

The promise to all "exiles" is that God can be counted upon to keep his promises. He had told the exiles early on that they would one day return to their homeland. We can count on God just as we can count upon the rain and snow to water the earth.

Harvest time has come. Farmers are gathering their crops and preparing for the winter. Come winter and the ground lies fallow, the sap is low in the ground, things look generally dead and barren. But the promise of spring is always in the back of our minds.

The Word of God shall always stand as a source of constant promise. The uncertainty of our times requires that we have something or someone to hope and trust in. Fortunately, we can hope and trust in the goodness of God to care for his children.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP).

THE ROCKS QUARTET

Rocks Quartet to sing

The Rocks Quartet will be presenting an Old Fashioned Gospel Sing on Saturday evening, October 10 at 9 p.m. in the Appomattox County High School auditorium following the fireworks.

The Rocks Quartet was formed in 1965 and sang for thirteen years throughout Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, and the Carolinas during which time they recorded four albums and sang to thousands of people.

The group no longer takes engagements to sing but they have agreed to use this opportunity to get together as a reunion. The proceeds from this concert will be donated to the Dixie Youth Organization of Appomattox County.

Admission will be $2.00 for adults and $1.00 for children.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend and help the youth of this county.

This program will be one of the many activities sponsored by the committee for the Appomattox Historic Railroad Festival.

Each family attending will receive a free album.

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Union Hill Baptist Church slates homecoming

You are invited to Homecoming "81" at Union Hill Baptist Church on October 4, 1981. Special guest will be Rev. Elton McDowell, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church.

Worship service will begin at 11:00 a.m. with fellowship meal following at noon in the fellowship hall.

Nursery will be provided for infants through three years

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